

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINE SUPREME COURT

BEGIN UNCLAS

1. APRIL 7 WASHINGTON POST CARRIES FOLLOWING STORY
DATELINED BUENOS AIRES: "ARGENTINE COURT CHALLENGE.
THE PARENTS OF A MAN WHO DISAPPEARED HERE FIVE MONTHS AGO
ARE ASKING ARGENTINA'S SUPREME COURT TO ORDER THE MILITARY
GOVERNMENT TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION IT MAY HAVE ON HIS
WHEREABOUTS.

DR. JOSE LEVITAN'S PETITION REGARDING HIS SON, CLAUDIO
AUGUSTO LEVITAN, 23, CONTENDS THE HIGH COURT'S STATUS IS
EQUAL TO THAT OF THE MILITARY JUNTA. THE CASE IS BELIEVED
TO BE THE FIRST CHALLENGE OF ITS KIND TO THE MILITARY
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GOVERNMENT, ACCORDING TO WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT
KAREN DEYOUNG."

END UNCLAS BEGIN LOU

2. DURING DERIAN VISIT, JUAN DE ONIS REPORTED THAT
PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS PLANNING TO

PETITION SUPREME COURT ON BEHALF OF 600 INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN DENIED HABEAS CORPUS. ASSEMBLY APPARENTLY HOPES THAT COURT WILL APPOINT A JUDGE TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION AND THIS WILL LEAD TO INFORMATION ABOUT 600 CASES OR TO DETERMINATION BY COURT THAT LEGAL PROCESSES ARE NOT FUNCTIONING IN ARGENTINA. ASSEMBLY REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT SUPREME COURT IS MADE UP OF SUFFICIENTLY HONEST JUDGES AND THAT THEY WILL TAKE CASE VERY SERIOUSLY.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE DETAILS ON THESE CASES IF AVAILABLE AND EMBASSY'S COMMENTARY OF ROLE OF SUPREME COURT IN PROTECTING RULE OF LAW IN ARGENTINA.
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